UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.1/45/1
21 September 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
FIRST COMMITTEE

ALLOCATION OF AGENDA ITEMS TO THE FIRST COMMITTEE

Letter dated 21 September 1990 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the First Committee

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the decisions taken by the General Assembly at the 3rd plenary meeting of the forty-fifth session pertaining to the allocation of items to the First Committee.

May I also invite your attention to the recommendations on the organization of the session, contained in section II of the report of the General Committee (A/45/250), which were approved by the General Assembly also at its 3rd plenary meeting. I earnestly request your co-operation in this regard.

(Signed) Guido de MARCO

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Annex

ALLOCATION OF ITEMS TO THE FIRST COMMITTEE

1. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 44/104 concerning the signature and ratification of Additional Protocol I of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (item 45).

2. Cessation of all nuclear-test explosions (item 46).

3. Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear-Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water (item 47).

4. Urgent need for a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty (item 48).

5. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East (item 49).

6. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia (item 50).

7. Conclusion of effective international arrangements on the strengthening of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons (item 51).

8. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons (item 52).

9. Prevention of an arms race in outer space (item 53).

10. Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa (item 54).

11. Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons (item 55).

12. General and complete disarmament (item 56)

[The General Assembly decided that the relevant paragraphs of the annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (A/45/371), which is to be considered directly in plenary meeting under item 14, should be drawn to the attention of the First Committee.]

(a) Notification of nuclear tests;

(b) Comprehensive United Nations study on nuclear weapons;

(c) Prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of radiological weapons;

(d) Conventional disarmament;

(e) Nuclear disarmament;

(f) Objective information on military matters;

(g) Prohibition of the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes;

(h) Relationship between disarmament and development;

(i) Naval armaments and disarmament;

(j) International arms transfers;

(k) Defensive security concepts and policies;

(l) Review of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament;

(m) Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes;

(n) Conventional disarmament on a regional scale.

13. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly (item 57):

(a) World Disarmament Campaign;

(b) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;

(c) Nuclear-arms freeze;

(d) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme;

(e) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

14. Scientific and technological developments and their impact on international security (item 58).

15. Science and technology for disarmament (item 59).

16. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session (item 60):

(a) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

(b) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

(c) Status of multilateral disarmament agreements;

(d) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

(e) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

(f) Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade;

(g) Implementation of the guidelines for appropriate types of confidence-building measures;

(h) Non-use of nuclear weapons and prevention of nuclear war;

(i) Cessation of the nuclear-arms race and nuclear disarmament;

(j) Prevention of nuclear war;

(k) Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade.

17. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace (item 61).

18. Israeli nuclear armament (item 62).

19. Education and information for disarmament (item 63).

20. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (item 64).

21. Special sessions on disarmament (item 65).

22. Verification in all its aspects (item 66).

23. Question of Antarctica (item 67).

24. Strengthening of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region (item 68).

25. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security (item 69).

26. Implementation of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace (item 70).

27. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapter III, section D] (item 12).

[The General Assembly decided that section D of chapter III would be referred also to the Second Committee.]

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General Assembly

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15 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
FIRST COMMITTEE

ALLOCATION OF AGENDA ITEMS TO THE FIRST COMMITTEE

Addendum

Letter dated 15 October 1990 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the First Committee

I have the honour to inform you that at the 30th plenary meeting of the forty-fifth session, held today, the General Assembly decided to allocate the following item to the First Committee:

28. Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament (item 155).

(Signed) Guido de MARCO

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READEX FICHE

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A/C.1/45/2
8 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
FIRST COMMITTEE

PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK AND TIMETABLE

	Dates	No. of meetings
General debate on all disarmament agenda items (items 45 to 66)	Monday 15 to Tuesday, 30 October	24
Closure of the list of speakers for general debate on all disarmament agenda items	Monday, 15 October, at 6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft resolutions on agenda items 45 to 66	Tuesday, 30 October, at 6 p.m.	
Consideration of and action on draft resolutions on agenda items 45 to 66	Wednesday, 31 October to Friday, 16 November	26
General debate, consideration of and action on draft resolution(s) on Question of Antarctica (item 67)	Monday 19 to Wednesday, 21 November	6
Closure of the list of speakers for general debate on agenda item 67	Monday, 19 November, at 12 noon	
Deadline for submission of draft resolution(s) on agenda item 67	Monday, 19 November, at 12 noon	

	Dates	No. of meetings
General debate, consideration of and action on draft resolutions on international security agenda items (items 68, 69 and 70) and the Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapter III, section D] (item 12)	Friday 23 November to Thursday, 29 November	10
Closure of the list of speakers for general debate on agenda items 68, 69, 70 and 12	Friday, 23 November, at 6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft resolutions on agenda items 68, 69, 70 and 12	Tuesday, 27 November, at 6 p.m.	

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15 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
FIRST COMMITTEE

PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK AND TIMETABLE

	Dates	No. of meetings
General debate on all disarmament agenda items (items 45 to 66 and 155)	Monday 15 to Tuesday, 30 October	24
Closure of the list of speakers for general debate on all disarmament agenda items	Monday, 15 October, at 6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft resolutions on agenda items 45 to 66 and 155	Tuesday, 30 October, at 6 p.m.	
Consideration of and action on draft resolutions on agenda items 45 to 66 and 155	Wednesday, 31 October to Friday, 16 November	26
General debate, consideration of and action on draft resolution(s) on Question of Antarctica (item 67)	Monday 19 to Wednesday, 21 November	6
Closure of the list of speakers for general debate on agenda item 67	Monday, 19 November, at 12 noon	
Deadline for submission of draft resolution(s) on agenda item 67	Monday, 19 November, at 12 noon	

	Dates	No. of meetings
General debate, consideration of and action on draft resolutions on international security agenda items (items 68, 69 and 70) and the Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapter III, section D] (item 12)	Friday, 23 November to Thursday, 29 November	10
Closure of the list of speakers for general debate on agenda items 68, 69, 70 and 12	Friday, 23 November, at 6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft resolutions on agenda items 68, 69, 70 and 12	Tuesday, 27 November, at 6 p.m.	

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15 October 1990
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 46 and 48

CESSATION OF ALL NUCLEAR-TEST EXPLOSIONS

URGENT NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

Letter dated 12 October 1990 from the Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of an appeal by the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the parliaments and people of the world, adopted on 9 October 1990.

I should be grateful if you would have this text circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 46 and 48.

(Signed) V. PETROVSKIY

ANNEX

Appeal by the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the parliaments and people of the world, adopted on 9 October 1990

The Supreme Soviet of the USSR has ratified the Soviet-American Treaty on the Limitation of Underground Nuclear Weapon Tests of 1974 and the Soviet-American Treaty on Underground Nuclear Explosions for Peaceful Purposes of 1976. In reaffirming its commitment to the eventual cessation of all nuclear tests, the Soviet Union proceeds from the belief that the entry into force of these two agreements does not mean that endeavours in this area have attained their final goal. The Supreme Soviet of the USSR considers it essential to remind the parliamentarians of all countries of the urgent need for the cessation of all nuclear tests as a vital element in strengthening the régime for the non-proliferation and elimination of nuclear weapons.

The initiatives and specific measures undertaken by the Soviet Union in this area are well-known. The USSR is prepared, at any time, to discontinue test explosions at its nuclear test-sites, thereby transforming the 12-month-long hiatus in Soviet nuclear tests into an indefinite and final cessation. All that remains is for the Government of the United States of America similarly to terminate its nuclear test programme, either unilaterally or on the basis of mutual agreement.

The USSR reaffirms its proposals for complete nuclear disarmament. It is prepared to become a non-nuclear State, if the other nuclear countries will take similar steps.

Important though the political initiative of setting good examples may be, the problem of nuclear tests has attained transnational proportions and, consequently, must be tackled by the joint efforts of the entire international community. We are convinced that no State, no Government and no people can afford to ignore this imperative of the modern age.

Parliaments and the general public have a special role in this task. As they reflect a broad spectrum of political attitudes and the longing of all people to live in peace and security, it is their duty to campaign for the banning of nuclear tests.

The Supreme Soviet of the USSR resolutely supports the banning of nuclear tests at the earliest opportunity, and appeals to the parliaments of all countries and, first and foremost, of States in which nuclear-weapon tests are conducted, to take a firm and clear position in favour of a full and comprehensive end to nuclear tests. By doing this the parliamentarians would demonstrate their genuine concern for the interests of the voters, and would reflect their aspirations.

The Supreme Soviet of the USSR intends to keep the Secretary-General informed about its position on this problem, and is counting on similar action by the parliaments of other countries.

The path to a non-nuclear world is not easy, but it is one that we are capable of following. Our movement along this path should be consistent, purposeful and in one direction only: forward.

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15 October 1990
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 56 (f)

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Objective information on military matters

Letter dated 12 October 1990 from the Deputy Head of the Delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to submit information on the total number and main categories of weapons of the Armed Forces of the USSR as at 1 January 1990.

I request that the text of this letter and its annex be circulated as a General Assembly document under agenda item 56 (f).

V. PETROVSKIY
Deputy Head of the Delegation

Annex

INFORMATION ON THE TOTAL NUMBER AND MAIN CATEGORIES OF WEAPONS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE USSR

(as at 1 January 1990)

Total strength of armed forces of USSR - 3,993,000

Numerical data on strategic nuclear weapons of USSR

ICBM launchers	1 398
MIRVed ICBM launchers	760
SLBM launchers	924
MIRVed SLBM launchers	440
Total number of ICBM and SLBM launchers	2 322
Total MIRVed ICBM and SLBM launchers	1 200
Heavy bombers	162
Heavy bombers equipped with cruise missiles	97
Total ICBM, SLBM and heavy bomber ballistic missle launchers	2 484
MIRVed or cruise missile-armed ICBM, SLBM and heavy bomber ballistic missile launchers	1 297
Total number of strategic missiles, approximately	10 000

Quantitative data on main categories of conventional weapons of USSR

Forward Air Force Combat Aircraft, anti-aircraft defence and naval aircraft	8 207
Military helicopters, including naval aircraft	4 014
Tactical missile launchers	1 723
Tanks, including amphibious tanks (PT-76)	63 900
Military troop transports and armoured troop transports	76 520
Multiple rocket launchers and rocket-launching mortars (100 mm calibre and above)	66 880
Submarines (except for submarines armed with strategic ballistic missiles)	260
Nuclear submarines	113

Heavy surface vessels (aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, large anti-submarine vessels, landing craft displacing 1,200 tons and above)	157
Aircraft carriers	4
Landing craft displacing 1,200 tons and above	41

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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18 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ARABIC/CHINESE/ ENGLISH/FRENCH/ RUSSIAN/SPANISH

أعضاء اللجنة الأولى
第一委员会成员
MEMBERSHIP OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE
MEMBRES DE LA PREMIERE COMMISSION
ЧЛЕНЫ ПЕРВОГО КОМИТЕТА
MIEMBROS DE LA PRIMERA COMISION

ملحوظة : يرجى من الوفود التي تريد إدخال أية تصحيحات على القائمة التالية أن ترسلها ، كتابة ، إلى أمين اللجنة ، الغرفة رقم S-3170C ، مبنى الأمانة العامة .

注意：请各代表团把对以下名单的更正用书面送交秘书处大楼第 S-3170C 室的委员会秘书。

NOTE: Delegations are requested to send their corrections to the following list in writing to the Secretary of the Committee, room S-3170C, Secretariat Building.

NOTE: Les délégations sont priées d'envoyer leurs corrections à la présente liste, par écrit, au Secrétaire de la Commission, bureau S-3170C, Bâtiment du Secrétariat.

ПРИМЕЧАНИЕ: Делегациям предлагается послать свои исправления к настоящему списку в письменной форме секретарю Комитета, комната S-3170C, здание Секретариата.

NOTA: Se ruega a las delegaciones se sirvan enviar sus correcciones a la siguiente lista, por escrito, al Secretario de la Comisión, oficina S-3170C, Edificio de la Secretaría.

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للاشتراك في دورات وأعمال
الجمعية العامة بصفة مراقبين

收到以观察员身份参加
大会各届会议及工作的
长期有效的邀请的组织

ORGANIZATIONS WHICH HAVE RECEIVED A STANDING INVITATION
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SESSIONS AND WORK
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS OBSERVERS

ORGANISATIONS AYANT RECU UNE INVITATION PERMANENTE
A PARTICIPER AUX SESSIONS ET AUX TRAVAUX
DE L'ASSEMBLEE GENERALE EN QUALITE D'OBSERVATEURS

ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ, ПОЛУЧАЮЩИЕ ПОСТОЯННОЕ ПРИГЛАШЕНИЕ
УЧАСТВОВАТЬ НА СЕССИЯХ И В РАБОТЕ ГЕНЕРАЛЬНОЙ
АССАМБЛЕИ В КАЧЕСТВЕ НАБЛЮДАТЕЛЕЙ

ORGANIZACIONES QUE HAN RECIBIDO UNA INVITACION PERMANENTE
A PARTICIPAR EN LOS PERIODOS DE SESIONES Y EN LOS
TRABAJOS DE LA ASAMBLEA GENERAL EN CALIDAD DE OBSERVADORAS

European Economic Community	Mme. Arlette Laurent Ms. Wiebke Peest Ms. Belinda Paes

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28 November 1990

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General Assembly

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A/C.1/45/6
18 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 119

PROGRAMME PLANNING

Note dated 16 October 1990 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the First Committee

The President of the General Assembly has the honour to enclose, for any appropriate action by the First Committee, a letter from the Chairman of the Fifth Committee to the Chairman of the First Committee regarding agenda item 119, entitled "Programme planning".

Annex

LETTER DATED 11 OCTOBER 1990 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 21 September 1990 addressed to me by the President of the General Assembly (A/C.5/45/5), by which he informed me that at the 3rd plenary meeting of the forty-fifth session, held on 21 September 1990, the General Assembly had decided to allocate agenda item 119, Programme planning, among others, to the Fifth Committee.

By its resolution 36/228 A of 18 December 1981, section I, the General Assembly endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) on the work of its twenty-first session. a/ One of those recommendations is contained in paragraph 471 of the CPC report, which states that:

> "Each chapter of the proposed medium-term plan should be submitted to the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly before the plan as a whole is adopted by the Assembly in plenary meeting".

At its current session, the General Assembly has before it the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (A/45/6), the consolidated summary of the comments and recommendations made by Member States and intergovernmental bodies since 1988 on the draft introduction to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (A/45/279), as well as the report of CPC on the work of its thirtieth session (A/45/16 (Parts I and II)).

The appendix below indicates, for each programme of the proposed plan, the relevant Main Committee(s) to which it should be referred.

In order to enable the Fifth Committee to take fully into account the views which the Member States may wish to express in the First Committee on the relevant programmes of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, it would be appreciated if such views were to be communicated to the Fifth Committee no later than 9 November 1990.

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a/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/36/38), chap. VII.

Appendix

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997 AND RELATED DOCUMENTS BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN PLENARY MEETINGS a/ AND THE MAIN COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Programmes and related documents	To be referred to
Introduction to the plan, b/ annex to the introduction c/ and note by the Secretariat containing a consolidated summary of the comments and recommendations made by Member States and intergovernmental bodies since 1988 on the draft introduction to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 d/	General Assembly and all Main Committees
Programmes 1 to 6, 10, 37 and 45	General Assembly
Programmes 1, 2 and 7	First Committee
Programmes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 35, 36 and 38	Special Political Committee
Programmes 11 to 24, 30 to 34, 37 and 45	Second Committee
Programmes 11, 12, 25 to 36	Third Committee
Programmes 1 and 4	Fourth Committee
Programmes 39 to 44	Fifth Committee
Programme 9	Sixth Committee

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a/ The General Assembly in plenary meeting is listed because the programmes and related documents referred to it deal with or are related to many of the items which are on its agenda.

b/ A/45/6 (introduction).

c/ A/45/6 (annex to the introduction).

d/ A/45/279.

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23 October 1990

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Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 56 and 69

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 19 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose the text of President Corazon C. Aquino's speech on the current negotiation on the Republic of the Philippines-United States Military Bases Agreement.

I would be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 56 and 69.

(Signed) Sedfrey A. ORDOÑEZ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Text of speech by Mrs. Corazon C. Aquino, President of the Republic of the Philippines, on the Republic of the Philippines-United States Military Bases Agreement

My fellow Filipinos:

Tomorrow, 18 September, our Government panel will begin discussions with its counterpart from the United States. While the impetus for the talks comes from a mutual desire to decide the fate of United States military facilities after 1991, our Government shall in these talks operate within the larger framework of redefining Republic of the Philippines-United States relations; defence and security issues shall only be one among many other important considerations.

In May of this year, we served the notice of termination of the Republic of the Philippines-United States Military Bases Agreement. With this action, we signified to the United States that the time had come to close the books on a document that is a lingering vestige of our colonial past: we asserted, and they agreed, that the time has come for our two nations to craft a new relationship - one more equitable, mutually beneficial, and respectful of each other's sovereignty. In a world where the cold war has ended, and events in Eastern Europe and the Middle East have altered the traditional geopolitical order, the decades-old parameters of the Republic of the Philippines-United States relationship no longer hold. The old cannot continue, the new must now be born. This new relationship shall be the subject of the talks that begin tomorrow.

We expect the United States to come to the talks with proposals on this new relationship; we are likewise prepared to respond to them, as well as put forth our own counter-proposals. Whatever the outcome of these discussions, we are pledged to decide on the basis of national dignity and national interest.

I am confident that we shall succeed. Our panel, headed by Secretary Manglapus and Secretary Bengzon, comes to these talks thoroughly prepared. We have reviewed the 50-year history of talks and agreements between us and the United States. We have examined similar agreements that the United States has concluded with its other allies across the globe. We have developed feasible options for our own defence and security. We have analysed the costs and benefits of the bases. A legislative-executive bases council has prepared plans for the conversion of the bases in anticipation of United States withdrawal. A special operations team has detailed preparations for implementing these plans. Finally, we have co-ordinated closely with the members of Congress, local government officials, and affected communities and sectors.

We are determined to chart our nation's course in this, as in all other matters. The United States military facilities are an influential fact of our national life, but they are not the heart of our economy nor the soul of our political well-being. Certainly they do not define our society. So we must regard them in that light, they are important, but they are not everything.

In one year, on 16 September 1991, the Republic of the Philippines-United States Military Bases Agreement expires. Our Constitution mandates that, unless a treaty is signed, concurred in by the Senate, and ratified by our people if Congress so requires, no foreign military facilities shall be allowed after that date. This is our nation's fundamental law and we shall stand by its provisions. It is now necessary for our Government to work with the United States for arrangements regarding the orderly withdrawal of their forces from our country. In the coming talks, this Government is determined to work together with the United States for an outcome that respects our aspirations as well as our responsibilities, our dignity as well as our welfare, our due as a sovereign nation as well as our friendship with an ally.

We stand at a crucial juncture in our history. This is for us a time of testing, a testing of our resilience as a people and our commitment to our country. We must learn to conquer our fears, shed our complacency, establish a principled consensus, and steel our collective will to pay the price for our aspirations. Our intent is sound, our motive pure, our course clear. In solidarity lies our strength, in unity lies our best hope for building our future as a nation that is peaceful and prosperous, sovereign and free. May God bless our efforts and reward us with the fruits of our labours.

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Forty-fifth session
FIRST COMMITTEE
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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT: NAVAL ARMAMENTS AND DISARMAMENT

Note verbale dated 7 November 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to request that the attached document be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 56 (i) entitled "General and complete disarmament: Naval armaments and disarmament".

Annex

NAVAL ARMAMENTS AND DISARMAMENT: MEMORANDUM BY SWEDEN

1. Nuclear arms at sea: the present situation

About every fourth nuclear weapon in the world, or a total of about 15,000, are earmarked for deployment at sea.

The five nuclear-armed navies currently are considered to deploy some than 3,500 nuclear-capable platforms: approximately 350 surface vessels, 400 submarines and 2,750 aircraft.

Approximately one third, or about 5,000, of all sea-based nuclear weapons can be estimated to belong to the category "sub-strategic", comprising a variety of nuclear weapons intended for targets at sea, as well as nuclear-armed cruise missiles and other nuclear weapons for attacks against targets on land.

The remaining two thirds of the nuclear weapons deployed at sea are considered strategic and are based on submarines.

Sea-launched cruise missiles and anti-ship missiles make up a growing category of naval nuclear weapons. There are at present around 900 sea-launched cruise missiles with nuclear warheads deployed on more than 200 platforms. Sweden and many other States are particularly concerned about the widespread deployment of these increasingly sophisticated missiles. Sweden notes with regret the high ceilings established in principle between the United States and the Soviet Union on the limitation of such missiles.

The operational patterns of navies on the open seas, often navigating in close proximity to each other, imply particular risks. The option of early use in a conflict of sub-strategic nuclear weapons carried on board may be influenced by the notion that such weapons, therefore, can be used in a military encounter at sea without causing direct damage to civilian life or property. Nuclear weapons intended for targets at sea are considered to threaten to bring about a lowering of the nuclear threshold.

A new and positive tendency towards unilateral arms reductions at sea by nuclear-weapon States has been discernible over the past few years. The number of nuclear-capable ships has decreased and the construction of new naval platforms appears to be slowing down. Through unilateral measures, entire classes of nuclear weapons intended for sea warfare have been withdrawn and certain categories of ships, or even whole fleets, have been de facto denuclearized. Additional withdrawals would be welcomed. Sweden urges all nuclear-weapon States to consider such unilateral withdrawals. These developments should clearly facilitate negotiations on naval nuclear disarmament.

Strategic nuclear weapons at sea were subject to limitations under the SALT I and SALT II agreements, a/ and are now part of the ongoing bilateral

Soviet-American negotiations. The SALT agreements were complemented by agreed confidence-building measures, as well as agreements on the prevention of incidents at sea concluded bilaterally between the USSR and a number of States members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) between 1972 and 1990. Naval sub-strategic nuclear weapons have, however, so far not been seriously addressed in negotiations between the nuclear-weapon States.

2. The need for increased transparency and confidence-building measures

Naval confidence-building measures seem to be a natural step towards halting the naval arms race and enhancing security.

One objective of naval confidence-building measures should be to increase security by diminishing the risks of incidents and confrontation at sea.

Security on the high seas is a function of the interaction of all navies. The positive results of bilateral agreements in this area suggest that security at sea could be further improved through the multilateral application of principles embodied in existing bilateral arrangements.

In 1988, the Disarmament Commission adopted by consensus a set of guidelines for confidence-building measures. b/ These guidelines establish that a major objective of confidence-building measures is to reduce or even eliminate the causes of mistrust, fear, misunderstanding and miscalculation with regard to relevant military activities and intentions of other States, factors which may generate the perception of reduced security.

It should be recalled that in adopting resolution 44/116 E of 15 December 1989 entitled "Objective information on military matters", which commanded an overwhelming majority in the General Assembly, including favourable votes by all the five nuclear-weapon States, the Assembly expressed the belief that the adoption of confidence-building measures to promote openness and transparency would contribute to the prevention of misperceptions of military capabilities and intentions. The Assembly also expressed the belief that balanced and objective information on all military matters, in particular of nuclear-weapon States and other militarily significant States, would contribute to the building of confidence among States.

The great number of sub-strategic nuclear weapons on board warships is a cause of grave concern. One of the reasons is the policy pursued by nuclear-weapon States neither to confirm nor deny the presence or absence of nuclear weapons on board any particular ship at any particular time. Whatever the reasons for it may have been in the past, this outdated and dangerous policy should now be abandoned.

This practice has caused increased public concern in many countries, especially when warships of nuclear Powers, claiming innocent passage, pass through the territorial waters of these countries or when they call at their ports.

The policy neither to confirm nor deny does not build confidence between States. Instead, whereas naval visits are intended to be confidence-building, this practice in fact undermines confidence.

The selective application of a sanctuary of secrecy in one area of military activity may undermine the credibility of legitimate demands for openness in other military spheres.

All five nuclear-weapon States have committed themselves to openness in all disarmament areas, but still stick to secrecy at sea. Sweden takes it for granted that the five nuclear-weapon States, all of which have voted in favour of the General Assembly resolution on objective information on military matters, will abide by this resolution and consistently display openness and transparency in all areas of military activity.

The ideal solution would be the complete prohibition of all nuclear weapons at sea. The practice of neither confirming nor denying would become superfluous through the prohibition of all non-strategic nuclear weapons at sea.

3. Naval nuclear disarmament measures

Sea-based nuclear weapons intended for targets on land pose special problems in relation to agreements involving land and/or air forces. Such agreements must not be circumvented by compensatory deployments at sea.

There is a growing awareness of the risks connected with sub-strategic nuclear weapons based at sea, as well as a discussion about the purpose or military utility of such weapons. The nuclear-weapon States should give the matter urgent attention and include this issue in disarmament negotiations.

At the 1990 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission, Sweden, Finland and Indonesia tabled a working paper on possible action in the maritime domain (A/CN.10/139).

Appropriate, universal and non-discriminatory verification is essential for the implementation of agreed measures in the naval field. The international community has a stake in all major disarmament agreements and a vital interest in the verification of compliance with them.

To further the cause of eliminating sub-strategic nuclear weapons deployed at sea, naval nuclear disarmament should occupy the place it deserves in the elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere.

There is now growing international recognition that negotiations on all naval nuclear weapons are long overdue. Limitations of sea-borne nuclear missiles are urgently required.

Sweden calls upon all States to take unilateral measures and/or to initiate negotiations to ban all nuclear weapons on all ships and submarines other than

those classes specifically designated by agreement, as an interim measure in anticipation of a complete denuclearization of naval forces. All sea-launched cruise missiles with nuclear warheads should in this context be completely banned.

Such measures would conform with the express agreement between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to conduct bilateral negotiations, which ultimately "should lead to the complete elimination of nuclear arms everywhere".

Sweden now proposes negotiations, bilaterally or multilaterally, on the prohibition of non-strategic nuclear weapons at sea.

Notes

a/ See The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook, vol. 4: 1979 (United Nations publication Sales No. E.80.IX.7), chap. VIII.

b/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/S-15/3), para. 41 (para. 6 of the quoted text).

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Forty-fifth session
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Agenda item 56 (i)

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT: NAVAL ARMAMENTS AND DISARMAMENT

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Notes

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b/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/S-15/3), para. 41 (para. 6 of the quoted text).

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14 November 1990

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Forty-fifth session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 54

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE DENUCLEARIZATION OF AFRICA

Letter dated 30 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the report of the Secretary-General on the nuclear capability of South Africa which was submitted to the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly as document A/45/569 of 18 October 1990 under item 54, Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa.

My attention has been drawn to the fact that the report contains no reference to any formal statement made by the competent South African authorities nor any indication that they might have been approached with regard to its preparation.

In paragraph 2 of that report it is, however, stated that in order to obtain information that would be of assistance, the Secretary-General had been in contact with the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Organization of African Unity. It is not made clear how information provided by the latter body can be considered as in any way authoritative in this regard.

Under the same item the Secretary-General has submitted another report, document A/45/571 of 22 October 1990, entitled "South Africa's nuclear-tipped ballistic missile capability". While the foreword to this report, which was prepared by a group of experts and, indeed, the report itself contain references to the reform process currently under way in South Africa and to statements made by the authorities in respect of accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), they do not quote those remarks nor place them in the context of the relevant agenda item.

Your Excellency will recall that on 18 September 1990 I brought to your attention the text of a statement issued by the Minister of Foreign Affairs,

Mr. R. F. Botha, concerning South Africa's position on accession to the NPT. The Minister stated clearly in that communiqué: "... the South African Government is prepared to accede to the Treaty in the context of an equal commitment by the other States in the southern African region", thus providing practical evidence of South Africa's search for ways to achieve a nuclear-weapons-free zone in at least one region in Africa.

I would add that South Africa's efforts in the nuclear field have always been aimed at the peaceful application of nuclear energy, as even a cursory reference to the number of official publications demonstrating its research in such fields as medical isotopes and the irradiation of perishable fruit and vegetables, to name only two, would easily reveal. The suggestion that South Africa may now change direction from military to peaceful aims is gratuitous.

In view of paragraph 4 of document A/45/569, I would again draw your attention to my letter of 18 September 1990 and ask that, together with the present letter, it be circulated with its enclosure as a document of the General Assembly under item 54 of the agenda.

(Signed) Jeremy B. SHEARAR
Permanent Representative
Ambassador

Annex

Letter dated 18 September 1990 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In the aftermath of the recent nuclear non-proliferation Treaty Conference at Geneva and on the occasion of the commencement of the current session of the IAEA General Conference, the South African Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. R. F. Botha, has issued a statement indicating South Africa's willingness to accede to the non-prolifreation Treaty in the context of an equal commitment by other States in the southern African region.

You will also observe from the statement, which I have pleasure in enclosing, that the South African Government hopes to commence talks with the IAEA on the conclusion of a comprehensive safeguards agreement on the country's nuclear facilities.

(Signed) Jeremy B. SHEARAR
Permanent Representative
Ambassador

Enclosure

STATEMENT ON SOUTH AFRICA'S POSITION ON ACCESSION TO THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY, ISSUED BY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON 17 SEPTEMBER 1990

On 21 September 1987 the South African State President indicated that South Africa hoped that it would soon be able to sign the nuclear non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) and had decided to open discussions with others to this end. He added that South Africa was an important uranium exporting country and also had a well-developed nuclear programme. For these and other reasons consideration of accession to the NPT was a complex matter requiring thorough study and consultation.

Since then various discussions have taken place between South Africa and the three depository States: the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom, in which South Africa sought clarification on the implications of accession.

During the past year major events of great historical importance have taken place in Central and Eastern Europe and in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics which have led to a lessening of tension between the power blocs of the world.

Various African States have recently expressed the view that the African continent should become a nuclear-weapon-free zone. These views were again aired at the recently concluded NPT Review Conference at Geneva. The South African Government welcomes these suggestions. Indeed, the South African Government has itself consulted a number of African Governments on the desirability of establishing a nuclear-free area at least in the southern African region. Such a move would further remove suspicions and should strengthen the economic and geographical cohesion of the region.

It is of particular significance that one of South Africa's closest neighbours, Mozambique, deposited instruments of accession to the NPT on 12 September 1990.

Following several rounds of discussions with the three depository States on the question of accession to the non-proliferation Treaty, the South African Government is prepared to accede to the Treaty in the context of an equal commitment by the other States in the southern African region.

In the mean time, the South African Government will continue to respect its non-proliferation responsibilities and commitments. For instance, the Government trusts that in the near future talks can commence with the International Atomic Energy Agency on concluding a comprehensive safeguards agreement on the country's nuclear facilities.

Viewed within the context of the Government's irreversible reform initiatives, the proposed action underscores South Africa's commitment to contribute to peace and regional security in southern Africa.

South Africa is hopeful that the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency which is currently meeting at Vienna will reflect carefully on the significance of the direction taken by South Africa in order to facilitate peace and co-operation in the southern African region.

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Forty-fifth session
FIRST COMMITTEE

SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RATIONALIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

Working paper by the Chairman

INTRODUCTION

1. During the past years, increasing attention has been paid to the question of rationalization of the work of the First Committee. Various views have been expressed and proposals made by delegations on how to refine and streamline the work and proceedings of the Committee. On the basis of their experience and the results of their extensive consultations among the interested delegations, various former Chairmen of the First Committee have underlined the need to accelerate efforts towards facilitating a more focused discussion of and action on the issue, including rationalization of the Committee's agenda. In this context, a general understanding has prevailed that such efforts should be geared towards the realization of greater organizational clarity and coherence without sacrificing the substance of the issues or compromising the right of delegations to bring any relevant item before the Committee.

2. Consequently, the First Committee has over the years devoted some of its efforts to this matter and adopted certain concrete recommendations in this regard, such as those contained in General Assembly resolution 42/42 N of 30 November 1987. Several former Chairmen of the First Committee have also submitted papers to the Committee containing various suggestions on the issue (see for example documents A/C.1/39/9 and A/C.1/43/9).

3. As another step towards the continuing process of rationalization of the work of the First Committee, I initiated extensive consultations among delegations on the issue and held several informal open-ended meetings of the Friends of the Chairman during the current session. Taking into account various views expressed and proposals made in the course of those consultations, I am availing myself of this opportunity to set out certain proposals and suggestions, which I hope will provide a basis for further consideration of this subject-matter. In addition, it

should be noted that, in my capacity as Chairman of the Committee at the forty-fifth session, I would be available with the assistance and co-operation of the Secretariat to facilitate the necessary consultations during the interim period between now and the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly. The Committee may also wish to devote attention to the question of establishing a standing consultation group that would give consideration on a more consistent basis to issues related to the further rationalization of the work of the First Committee.

I. PROCEDURAL ASPECTS

4. The following measures could be, inter alia, instituted with regard to procedural apsects in order to further enhance the effective functioning of the First Committee:

(a) The proceedings of the Committee, under the different agenda items, should continue to be in two phases:

(i) General debate, including statements on specifc agenda items;

(ii) Consideration of and action on draft resolutions;

(b) Every effort should be made to circulate the preliminary drafts of resolutions and/or decisions, via the Secretariat if possible, at an early date, even during the period of the general debate, whenever that is feasible;

(c) Delegates should be urged to limit their statements in the general debate to approximately 20 minutes, with the possibility also of making other short interventions, if necessary;

(d) The practice of grouping draft resolutions into various clusters for the purpose of taking action on them should be continued;

(e) As necessary, arrangements should be made to set aside some time during the official meetings to allow informal consultations to take place;

(f) Delegations may inform the officers of the Committee regarding their respective draft resolutions, at as early a stage as feasible, in order to facilitate the process of consultations pertaining to various draft resolutions.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS

5. With respect to substantive aspects, the First Committee may wish to continue its ongoing consultations, which could, inter alia, focus on the following areas:

(a) The agenda could be formulated in a manner that would better reflect the concerns of Member States as well as the changing realities in the international situation;

(b) A more rational and systematic clustering of agenda items, so as to render their consideration more effective;

(c) The possible merging of those draft resolutions that are submitted on the same subject-matter;

(d) The submission of recurrent or traditional draft resolutions on a biannual or triannual basis, as feasible.

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Forty-fifth session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 54

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE DENUCLEARIZATION OF AFRICA

Letter dated 19 November 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to document A/45/571 and Corr.1, entitled "South Africa's nuclear-tipped ballistic missile capability", circulated under item 54 of the agenda of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

In that connection, I wish to draw your attention to paragraph 36 of appendix I of document A/45/571, which states, inter alia: "South African officials were at pains to deny rumours that the country had already acquired actual Exocet missiles, possibly from Argentina".

Without entering into the general issue of the risks entailed in incorporating in Secretariat documents paragraphs concerning rumours that have been denied, that have already been circulating for several years, and whose accuracy has not been adequately verified, I wish to state in this specific case that the Argentine Republic has implemented and continues to implement scrupulously the embargoes imposed on South Africa in Security Council resolutions 418 (1977) and 558 (1984).

May I request you to have this note circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 54 of the agenda of the forty-fifth session.

(Signed) Jorge VAZQUEZ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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